

Saw Mill River Audubon Society
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
March 5, 1997

President Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM at the Lincolns'.

The following directors were present: Amaral, Anderson, Arnold, Bickford, Bloom, Kuhn, Langdon, Berna and Stan Lincoln, John and Nina McCall, McKown, Pinerio, Romaine, Rothlein, Smolin, and Rita and Stan Wecker. Secretary Chris Nykwest and Education Director Anne Swaim were also present.

The minutes of the February 5, 1997 Board of Directors meeting were accepted with the following correction: on page 2 insert "and Stan Wecker" after "Anne" and change "her" to "their."

Chris reported that the Society's latest membership count was 843.

Jim reported that Dr. Aggarwal has completed a major clean-up of the Crystal Springs property. Jim said that Vice-President Martin Smolin has written to the Chappaqua PTA on our behalf nominating Stan Wecker for a New York State PTA Honorary Life Membership Award. A copy of this letter is attached. Jim mentioned that nominations are in order for three awards offered by the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, one of which, the Lillian Stoner Award, enables a student to attend the Federation's annual meeting. Jim said that Edith Read Sanctuary, Croton Point and Huckleberry Island are three Westchester County areas nominated as "Important Birding Areas" with the National Audubon Society. Jim received a letter calling for nominations to the Board of Directors of the National Audubon Society.

Rita Wecker reported that the Finance Committee decided to sell our Society's investment in the T. Rowe Price International Fund and to invest the proceeds in the Janus Worldwide Fund. The Committee has also decided to sell our investment in the Fidelity Equity Income II Fund and to invest \$30,000 of the proceeds in U.S. Treasury notes. The remaining proceeds are to be invested one-third in the Vanguard Asset Allocation Fund, one-third in the Vanguard Index Fund, and one-third in the Janus Worldwide Fund. Rita reported that the value of our Society's investment portfolio on January 31 was \$772,678. The Finance Committee has decided that there is no need for the Treasurer to relinquish custody of the Society's checkbook during investment transfers.

Jeff Pinerio presented the attached report of the Capital Fund Committee (Ad Hoc Committee on a Capital Plan). Jeff said that the repairs to the Pruyn House kitchen are complete. Anne Swaim contributed a new light fixture. Jeff moved that the plan proposed in the report be adopted. Seconded and carried.

Treasurer Berna Lincoln read a corporate resolution authorizing the sale of our investment in the T. Rowe Price International Fund. Andy Rothlein moved that this resolution be adopted. Seconded and carried. Berna moved that we authorize the appropriate completion of a Citicorp Business Certification Form. Seconded and carried.

Nina and John McCall reviewed the arrangements for the March 19 and 20 Phonathon at the Randolph Properties office in Chappaqua.

Martin Smolin reported that he has made many trail signs for Graff Sanctuary and has had talks with Hudson National about the signs they are to erect along their border of Brinton Brook Sanctuary. Martin and Anne Swaim said that Hudson National's attitude regarding environmental repair and preservation is discouraging. Martin has scheduled a Sanctuary Committee meeting for March 27.

Anne Swaim gave an account of her recent activities, and presented her February report as well as her March schedule. Anne is taking steps to replace grass carp at Pinecliff Sanctuary which may have been caught by otters.

Pam McKown reported that the armchair activist issue of the month is an appeal to Governor Pataki to protect 7,000 acres of buffer land managed by the State at Stewart Airport, including 1,200 acres proposed for development. Another current issue is a development plan for the Whitney tract in the Adirondacks.

Jim Anderson said that a large amount of unsold bird seed still on hand will be donated to the Pace University Environmental Center.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 2 at the McCalls'.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

William Romaine

Directions to the McCall's home: Take the Saw Mill River Parkway and get off at the Chappaqua exit. Hamilton Road is on the west side of the Parkway, directly behind the statue of Horace Greeley. The address is 260 Hamilton Road, Chappaqua. Please telephone if you are unable to attend the meeting, 238-5203. Thanks!